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Approved For Release 2003/08/11 : CIA-RDP82-00457R005900110001-8

INTELLOFAX 21

**INFORMATION REPORT**

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 29 SEP 50

COUNTRY Poland/Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Ban on Literature; Polish-German Trade Agreement; and Shortage of Iron and Ore

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED  
25X1  
DATE OF INFO.

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1

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1. The Ministry of Education and Instruction has forbidden the publication and distribution of a large number of books and publications and has banned them from private homes as well as public libraries. The UB is empowered to search homes for unauthorized literature, and anyone found with such material is to be severely punished. Included in this prohibition are post-war works by Prime Minister Jozef Cyrankiewicz and Minister Hilary Minc, but writings by Gomulka are not mentioned. The government has ordered that portraits and pictures of Marshal Michal Zymierski be destroyed.
2. The USSR has again curtailed construction of the new Nowa Huta foundry at Krakow and has stopped almost all ore deliveries to Poland. In this way it is attempting to coerce the Poles into making economic grants to the Soviet Zone of Germany. Further concessions will be demanded of the Poles under the new Polish-German trade agreement, which is to be signed this fall and which is expected to be effective for six years.
3. Because of a shortage of iron and ore in Poland, extreme conservation in the use of iron and steel has been ordered. All machinery and tools, even those formerly discarded as scrap, are to be examined by a "commission of specialists" who alone may decide whether the machinery is to be scrapped or salvaged and used in whole or in part. The building program suffers from this shortage of iron and steel, and wood and concrete is being substituted for iron in the construction of bridges and houses.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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Approved For Release 2003/08/11 : CIA-RDP82-00457R005900110001-8  
Date: 29 Jun 1978

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